

THE  
GROANS  
OF  
GERMANY:  
OR, THE  
ENQUIRY  
OF A  
PROTESTANT GERMAN  
INTO

The Original Cause of the present  
Distractions of the *Empire*; the fatal Consequences of an *Emperor* devoted to *France*, and the *Conduct* of *Great Britain*, since the Death of Queen ANN, with Regard to the Houses of AUSTRIA and BOURBON, the Ballance of Power, the *Protestant* Interest, and the *Liberties* of *Europe*.

AS ALSO,  
Observations on the NEUTRALITY of One of the *Northern Electorates*, and the VOTE of a certain *Elect*or in Favour of the Duke of *Bavaria*.

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the *Hague*.

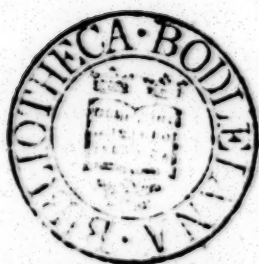
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THE SECOND EDITION.

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T H E  
G R O A N S  
O F  
G E R M A N Y.

**F**OR some Centuries before the Days of the Emperor *Charles V.* the *Liberties* of *Europe* were secured by a blessed Equality of Power amongst her Potentates. There were, indeed, Quarrels and Wars between particular Princes and States, but as they were founded only on Motives of private Pique and Interest, they were attended with no Consequences destructive of *general Freedom* : But during the Reign of that aspiring, powerful Prince, and after, till the Peace of *Munster* in 1648, the House of *Austria* very justly became the Object of publick Jealousy.

By the Peace of *Munster*, and that concluded at the same Time at *Osnabrug* with *Sweden*, the Ally of *France*, the Scale of Power was so obviously turn'd in Favour of the House of *Bourbon*, that the World was no longer in Dread of the Artifice or Ambition of the House of *Austria*.

From that Time, till lately, it was thought necessary for preserving the *Liberties* of *Europe*,  
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that the *two Houses* should subfist and flourish. So long as *Rome* and *Carthage* preserved their Power intire, the World was free; but as soon as *Rome* was permitted to triumph over her *Rival*, the other Kingdoms and Republicks became Provinces of the *Roman Empire*.

The two Houses of *Bourbon* and *Austria*, in whose Quarrels the Blood of so many Thousands has been shed, were look'd upon as the *Rome* and *Carthage* of *Europe*, whose *Liberty* depended as much on their Equality and Preservation, as that of the whole World did on those two famous Republicks.

As the *Liberty* of *Europe* depended on the Preservation of those two Houses, so did her *Repose* depend on a certain Proportion or Equality of Power, which ought to have been maintained between them: For while neither could entertain Hopes of gaining Advantage of the other, they would not easily be brought into Schemes of universal Sway; and consequently they might be always look'd upon as the Bulwarks of the *European Freedom*.

The House of *Austria* was so weaken'd, and that of *Bourbon* so strengthen'd by the Peace of *Munster*, that the desirable Equality, so ardently fought by all *Europe*, was at last brought to Perfection; and, no doubt, would have remained to this Day, if the Emperor *Leopold* had been as warlike and active as *Louis XIV.* but the latter, egg'd on by an insatiable Ambition, took Advantage of the Indolence of the former; and, without doubt, projected the *enslaving Scheme* he attempted to execute immediately after the *Pyrenean Treaty*.

From the Moment this Treaty was sign'd, the Ballance of the two Powers was destroyed: From that Day, fatal to all *Europe*, the Influence  
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of *France* reached from one End of the Globe to the other, almost without Exception. It was felt in the *East* and *West-Indies* by Settlements and the Extension of her Commerce ; in *Lorrain* by the Oppression of the Duke *Charles* and his Subjects ; in *Spain* by the solemn Reparation exacted from *Philip IV.* about the Dispute of Precedency between the *French* and *Spanish* Ambassadors ; in *England* by the Sale of *Dunkirk* ; at *Genoa* by the Necessity imposed on that Republick to expel Cardinal *Imperiali*, one of their Nobles that had taken Sanctuary there ; in *Affrick* by the Submission of *Algier*, *Tunis* and *Tripoli* ; at *Rome* by the Treaty of *Pisa*, so injurious to the Pope's Power ; the Erection of the famous and ignominious *Pyramid* within the Walls of *Rome*, and the Legation of Cardinal *Chigi*, the humbled Pope's favourite Nephew. All these Tests of the Increase of the *French* Power happened in less than seven Years after the *Pyrenean* Peace.

The World was alarm'd at the Haughtiness and growing Power of *Louis XIV.* but no Measures were concerted for taking him down till 1668, when the famous *Tripple Alliance* was form'd, which was imprudently dissolved or broken two Years after. The War which *France* made in 1667 on the House of *Austria* occasioned this Alliance ; had it subsisted, as in good Policy it ought, *Louis* had not in 1670 seiz'd upon all *Lorrain*, nor invaded *Holland* in 1672.

About this Time the Eyes of *Europe* began to open ; the Power and Views of *France* became conspicuous and dreadful. A Confederacy was form'd with the House of *Austria* at the Head of it, to stop the Progress of *France* : And tho' this Confederacy was considerably increased, and subsisted till the last general Peace at *Utrecht*, still has that formidable Crown gradually increased

in Power and Influence till now, when she dictates to all *Europe*, and is, I am afraid, beyond the Reach of all those that might be inclined to clip her Wings. Alas! who are they that seem inclined to stem the Torrent of her Power and Influence, or stand up in Defence of the *Liberties* of *Europe*? That glorious Spirit which animated *Europe* to a Confederacy against this dictating Crown, seems to have been buried with that magnanimous Princess Queen *Ann*, who generously and successfully opposed the Incroachments of *France* on the Possessions and Freedom of her Neighbours.

'Tis true, the Treaty of *Utrecht* confirmed to *France* the Possession, not only of most of her Usurpations on this Side the *Pyrenees*, but that of *Spain* and the *Indies*, to a Branch of her House; but so augmented was the Power of the House of *Austria* by that Treaty, that it would always be such a Counterpoise to that of the House of *Bourbon*, as must effectually preserve the *Liberties* of *Europe*, had not the *Common-welfare* been most shamefully sacrificed to private Interest.

However ungrateful it may be to examine the Conduct of those whom all *Europe* looked upon as the genuine Friends of their *Freedom*, it becomes necessary when that very *Freedom* is endanger'd, if not irretrievably lost, by the false Policy of those pretended Guardians. Shall Nations be enslaved? Shall Crowns and vast Possessions be dealt about like so many Counters at Play? Shall all *Europe* be obliged to truckle to the Force and Influence of One *Single House*? I say, Shall we see these terrible Effects of the Misconduct of our pretended Friends, and not examine; or, rather, not complain? Poor Comfort it is to complain, and yet 'tis all we have left, at least 'tis all we have any Reason to hope from the future Conduct of those that have already contributed to forging the  
Chains

Chains that are now reached out by the House of *Bourbon* to all that dare stand in her Way to *universal Monarchy*.

I am sensible, that many have treated the Notion of *universal Monarchy* as chimerical; and to take the Words strictly and literally, it may be so; but sure it cannot be deny'd, that a Prince may properly be deemed an *universal Monarch*, who influences all the other Powers of *Europe*? Whenever such general Influence is observed; whenever it appears certain and incontest'd, it can no longer be doubted that any Prince so influencing, is, to all the Intents of Power, an *universal Monarch*, as much as if he had the actual Possession of the Territories of those Potentates and States whom he thus influences.

*Louis XIV.* was too wise to attempt the Possession of all *Europe*; but he certainly had a View to the *universal Monarchy* of *Europe* in the Sense I mean; and had he attained to it, we should have seen, long before now, *France* dictating to all the Princes and States of *Europe*: But what that great King could not compass, is brought about by his Successor, tho' far his Inferior in the Art of governing, and most other Qualifications: But here lies the Difference. The Views and Ambition of *Louis XIV.* were seen and obstructed by Princes of Courage and great Abilities: But the Contemporaries of *Louis XV.* far from opposing his Steps to *universal Monarchy*, lent him a Hand to mount the Ladder till he is arrived to the Summit of Power. They wanted not the *Means* to prevent his *Rise*; but they must allow me to say, that they were deficient in *Courage* or *Wisdom*, or both. And should they or their Partizans dispute this with me, they must necessarily admit of a Charge far more injurious to their Honour; it being infinitely



initely less criminal to be *weak* and *passive* than to be *corrupt* and *self-interested*.

That *Louis XV.* is arrived to *universal Monarchy*, is, I think, a Point that scarce admits of Contest: But should it be controverted, sure I am, it ought not to be by those who have for many Years, and do even now, give the most convincing Proofs of their Submission and Resignation to his all-powerful Will: Witness all your near-sighted, intuated Princes of *Germany*, the unhappy Queen of *Hungary* excepted, of the Power and Influence of your *Gallick Dictator*. Who of the Princes of that extended Empire does shew even a Willingness to assert the *Freedom* of his Country? Those whose Territories lie upon the *Rhine* are so much exposed to the Insults of *France*, so wholly in her Power since her Acquisition of *Lorrain*, that Resistance on their Side would be as impolitic as unsafe. The Elector of *Mentz*, particularly, is a worthy Prince, and truly in the Interest of his Country; but what Efforts can he, or dare he make unaided, unassisted by Princes much farther from Danger, and far less in the Power of *France*? The Elector of *Triers* being less powerful, and not less exposed to *France*, must as necessarily dance to her Fiddle as his Brother of *Mentz*. The other spiritual Elector, had he been less at the Mercy of *France* than his Colleagues, would still be at her Beck, as he has a Family Interest which binds him and all the Princes of his House to her.

The House of *Bavaria* has been look'd upon as wholly in the *French* Interest ever since the Treaty of *Munster*; but by what Ties or Motives seemed not so clear till lately, when we see the Head of the Family more powerfully assisted by that Crown than could be expected from an Ally that acted from Motives of Friendship only. 'Tis

now



now become conspicuous why *France* had all-a-long maintain'd her Interest at *Munich* at no very moderate Expence. 'Tis seen the House of *Bavaria* was the *Falcon* the fed and cherish'd to fly at the royal *Eagle* of *Austria* when Opportunity should offer. The Death of the late Emperor has furnished her with this Opportunity, and she greedily lays hold of it, tho' specifically engaged to support the Disposition he had made in his Family: But with *France*, it has been ever since the Ministry of *Richelieu* particularly, *Delenda est Austria*. Her Intentions were known, her Designs were seen and guarded against, down from the *Pyrenean* Treaty to that of *Utrecht*; since when, the Politicks of those States formerly combin'd against this *Destroyer* of our *European Carthage*, have been so alter'd, that were a *Marlborough* and a *Henjins* to rise out of their Graves, they would blush for the bungling Conduct of their Countrymen.

Besides the Situation of the Elector *Palatine*, which as immediately exposes him to the Resentment of *France* as the spiritual Electors, the Interest of his Nephew and adopted Heir, the Prince of *Sultsbach*, has thrown him into her Arms without Reserve, tho' from Inclination he is *German*, and very probably would shew himself one, even at this Time, had not the pusillanimous Conduct of the maritime Powers obliged him to seek the Alliance of a Crown, which has for almost an Age been the Object of *German Jealousy*.

The House of *Hesse* is sincerely in the *German* Interest, but being too inconsiderable of itself, is forced to fall in with the Measures of the Electors of *Saxony*, *Brandenbourg* and *Hanover*. These Princes, from their Power and Situation, are properly the true Supports of *German Liberty*:

berly : Their Distance from the Frontiers of the Dominions of *France*, not only secures them from all sudden Irruptions from that Crown, but puts it more in their Power to arm and fortify themselves against all her Attempts. Were these Electors united ; had they such an Understanding together as the general Interest of *Germany*, and even the particular Interest of each of themselves requires, the House of *Austria* would be safe, and the Liberties of *Germany* would be secure ; but by a Fatality, ever to be lamented by all who wish well to *Germany* ; by all who are not supple enough to wish to be Slaves, these natural Bulwarks of the *Freedom* of the Empire act upon different Plans, from different Motives.

The Elector of *Saxony*, from a View of rendering the Crown of *Poland* hereditary in his Family, and of some small Acquisition on the Side of *Bohemia*, sits an idle Spectator, whilst *Prussia* on one Side, and *Bavaria* on the other, strips the only House that could check the Carrier of *France*. Here, indeed, is a colourable Excuse for the present Inaction of this Prince, which, however ill-founded, is yet more than can be urged in Behalf of the Elector of *H*—.

'Tis true, no Consideration should induce a Prince of *Germany* to sit still whilst the *common Enemy* artfully kindles the Flames of War in her Bowels, that she might the more easily destroy the Liberties of the Empire ; but for a *Prince* that seems to have no Views of extending his Dominions, that has no Pretensions, that, in short, has no colourable Excuse ; I say, to see a Prince thus circumstanced, look on unconcerned in such a Situation as the present, is such a Stain of Policy, as sure never was known in *Germany* ; no, not in the whole World before. And if Power, the prodigious Power of this Prince, within and  
without

without the Empire, be considered, his Supineness will appear still more extraordinary.

Had this Prince taken such Measures, as all *Europe* thought he would on the Demise of the Emperor, had he shew'd that Steadiness and Resolution which became a Prince of his great Power, no Prince in *Germany* durst indulge his Ambition, or combine with the natural Enemy of the Empire. Had not the King of *Prussia* built on a *Weakness*, which I don't care to explain, he never durst attempt an Invasion of the Possessions of *Austria*, before his Claim, if any he has, had been maturely examined by the principal Members of the Empire? I will go farther and say, that the Elector of *Bavaria* had not ventured so deeply in the Schemes of *France*, unless he had seen, by the unactive Conduct of this powerful Prince, that no Consideration, except an actual Invasion of his own Dominions, was able to rouse him to the Defence of the Liberties of the Empire.

'Tis true, *France*, who seldom cares to leave any Thing to Chance, seems disposed to secure his *Neutrality*, by setting herself at his Elbow, that he might see she is in a Condition to stop his Hand, should he attempt to raise it in Defence of the House of *Austria*. The Precaution was wise; but, in my Opinion, it was unnecessary, the precious Moment being already elapsed, which, if rightly employed, would have preserved the Ballance of *Europe*.

A *spontaneous Neutrality* had no very promising Aspect; but a *compulsive Neutrality* would be such a Monster in Politics, would fix such a Stain, as all the Waters in the *Thames* and *Weser* could never wash away.

Whilst all the Friends of general *Freedom* have Reason to dread the growing, or rather the grown, Power of *France*, we cannot but admire her Policy



and Forecast. By the March of her Troops into *Wesphalia* she serves many Purposes of Moment, at least it seems so to me, that am, I confess, in none of her Secrets. I think it may be supposed, that *France* has not only the Neutrality of *H——* in View by this Motion of her Armies, but likewise a *Cessation* at least, if not a Peace, between *Great Britain* and *Spain*: And should I add, that she takes the *States General* into her Scheme, I don't think I should be much mistaken. The weakest Side of the *united Provinces* lies on the Side of *Munster*: A combined Army of 60, or 70,000 Men at the Disposal of *France* on that weakest Side, must necessarily quicken the Pace towards a Neutrality of such few *Hollanders* as may have retain'd some Sparks of Generosity and publick Spirit.

Here then appear three principal Motives for the March of the Marshal *Maillebois*: The Scheme is refin'd, 'tis well laid; but it never had been concerted if *France* had not built more on the *Weakness* of some I don't care to name, than on her own Strength, great as it is.

I won't answer that *France* will succeed in all her Views by this expensive March of her Forces, tho' I dread she will; but should she succeed in any, who is to be blamed? and should she succeed in all—Instead of saying what I intended, let me ask with the *Roman* Historian; *Quis enim potest, desertâ per se Patriâ, aut oppressâ, beatus esse?*

But on a Supposition that *France* obtains a Neutrality from *H——*, of which the Neutrality of the *States General* is an indubitable Consequence, what shall become of the House of *Austria*, which has cost so much Blood and Treasure to support? What shall become of the Liberties of the Empire? What of the Ballance of Power? or, What shall become of the Liberties of *Europe*? And let me add, What is to become of the *reform'd Religion*? These  
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are Points that affect not only *Germany*, but all *Europe* ; they are Points that affect *Protestants* in particular.

The natural Consequence of *France's* bullying *H*—— into a Neutrality, is a Cessation or Peace between *Great Britain* and *Spain*, because we may reasonably suppose, that he who can gain upon himself to acquiesce in the first, will never hesitate at the latter : And the World is too well acquainted with the Modesty of *France* to think she won't push the *Foible* of Mankind as far as is will go, Besides, to examine the Power of *Great Britain*, and the Weakness of *Spain*, and the immediate Interest of *France* in preserving the Possessions of *Spain* in the *West-Indies* ; I say, if these Points be maturely considered, it can't be doubted that the March of *French* Troops towards *H*——— was as much, or more, in Favour of *Spain* as on any other Consideration. And since *France* is not as yet a Match for *Great Britain* at Sea, I don't know whether the Rout to *H*—— may not be the surest and shortest Road to a Peace for *Spain*. The farthest Way about is often the nearest Way home ; and tho' the Distance between *Madrid* or *Paris* and *London*, is not so far as to *H—nb—n* ; yet as the latter is not situated on an *Island*, and consequently can more easily be come at, a *French* Courier or *General* may make his Way sooner to it than to the former.

If then Monsieur *Maillebois*, or rather the *Herald* Monsieur *Buffy*, should hit upon a *soft Place*, and reason or f——n any body into Harmony with *Philip V.* no-body will doubt that the Reconciliation will be most extravagantly advantagious to *Great-Britain*, and injurious to *France* and *Spain* : For to be sure, a Peace clapp'd up in the Dark, and in a remote, obscure Corner of *Germany*, will bear the most refulgent Light : But what signifies what Light it bears, or whether or no it can bear any, if the

new *British* Parliament prove as obsequious as the last? Should the same dutiful Spirit animate the present Representatives of *Britain* as did the last, why should it be doubted that this will not as obligingly approve of a *Peace* as that did of a *Convention*?

'Tis probable this same *Peace*, the Purchase of *Peace* upon the Banks of the *Weser*, may not be presently made publick, it being first necessary to feel *Pulses* and count *Numbers*; but it may be known, even in an Eclipse, by its *Effluvia*, or rather certain Symptoms necessarily attending it. The Preparations for *America* will be slacken'd; they will be lessen'd; they will be delay'd; or if this should be deem'd too glaring, a certain active *Admiral* will be recall'd, and some more supple and complaisant Subject will be put in his Place. To gain *Time* is often gaining the *Battle*. Give a dextrous Minister *Time*, and a *quantum sufficit* of the imperial *Soporifick*, he never can fail of covering *Blots*, if he can't remove them. No Man that considers the Conduct of *Great Britain* since 1714 will doubt of the Power or Address of the Court of *London*, within the Limits of the *Britannick* narrow Seas, at least.

I have employed three whole Paragraphs on the supposed Success of Monsieur *Buffy* in Favour of *Spain*; and tho' they were not dilated, I confess they were more than a *German*, as I am, should bestow on a Subject that so little concern him. What is it to me what becomes of the *Trade* of *England*? Why should I imploy a Moment of my Time in Favour of a Country that has, almost ever since the Treaty of *Utrecht*, taken every Step to upset the Ballance of Power fix'd by that Treaty? Why should I, that am hourly in Danger of losing the *Freedom* I was born to, trouble myself about a People, who, however tenacious of their own Liberties, have been the Cause that mine  
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is now become precarious, if not lost beyond all Resource?

The next Emperor, very likely, will be a *German* by Birth, and he may be one by Inclination; but what of that? he won't, he can't be at Liberty to act in *Germany* as he pleases; he must necessarily do the Drudgeries of his *Protector*; he must dispoil this and that City of her Liberties; take such and such Churches from *Lutherans* for the Use of *Catholics*; he must weaken this Prince and strengthen that; he must raise that Citadel and Fortrefs, and suffer one or more to be built here or there: In short, the next Emperor, be he who he will, and in all human Probability all succeeding Emperors, will be little less than Vassals to the Crown of *France*: The Reason is plain.

The House of *Austria*, dispoil'd of her hereditary Possessions, and the imperial Dignity, will be no longer considered as a Power capable of offending or defending; and yet till now it was certainly the only Power in *Germany*, either capable or willing to protect the Empire against its domestick and foreign Enemies. This was her Crime, the only Guilt for which she suffers at this Time: This *Carthage* was an Eye-sore to the gallick *Rome*; and she must be no more.

Supposing, as too truly it may be supposed, that the House of *Austria* will be driven out of the Empire, where is the Power capable of supporting the imperial Dignity with Eclat? Who is it, of those Princes that lick the Feet of *Louis XV.* that is capable of maintaining the Rights and Privileges of the Empire? The new Professor of *Silesia*, or rather the Usurper of that rich Province, would make no Figure on the imperial Throne; 'tis by much too exalted for him; he has not Weight; he has not Strength to support the imperial Diadem. I have as much Veneration for his *Prussian* Majesty, and his whole

whole House, as any *German* living ; and yet I should be extremely sorry he harboured any Thoughts of the imperial Throne : It would be such a Wound to the *Protestant* Cause as would never be healed ; nor is it unlikely but the Steps he has already taken will weaken the Interest of the Religion he professes, as much as if he had absolutely exchanged it for the Catholick. I won't suppose that Prince had any Design so inglorious, so irreligious ; but should the Consequence of his new Alliance, of his new Measures with the Chief of the *Catholick* Princes ; should, I say, his new Strain of Politicks prove the utter Subversion of the *reformed Religion* in *Germany*, it may be urged in his Behalf, indeed, that he was intentionally guiltless, but he can never be acquitted of Weakness and false Ambition.

The Elector of *Saxony*, considered as such, is still less Powerful than his *Prussian* Majesty, and therefore less able to support the Interest or Grandeur of the Empire : And as for his Neighbour of *H—r*, his Power, abstracted from what the Crown he wears gives him, bears no Proportion to the Weight of the imperial Diadem. I don't suppose that Prince entertained any Thoughts of the Empire, it being incompatible with the Religion he professes ; for which, without doubt, he would *slight* all the Crowns of the Earth : I don't suppose he would exchange the powerful Diadem he wears for one, which, on him, would be a Shadow only without the other ; and both he could not possibly retain.

The Elector of *Bavaria*, who bids fairest for the Empire, as he stands fairest with *France*, is at present less powerful of himself than either of those I mentioned : And supposing he feathers himself with the Spoil of the House of *Austria* ; supposing he usurps *Bohemia*, and even the two *Austria's*, he will be still unequal to the Weight of the imperial Dignity,

nity, if not supported by *France*. This Inability will always oblige him to a servile Subserviency to that Crown; and that Subserviency will necessarily destroy the Liberties of the Empire, and with it, the Liberties of *Europe*. This is the Consideration which, at present, distracts all Patriot *Germans*; 'tis that which forced the Pen into my Hand; 'tis that, alas! which draws Sighs from my Heart, and Tears from my Eyes; 'tis that which would induce me to drop the *Pen* for the *Sword*, and face Death in all its frightful Shapes, to preserve the *Freedom* of my dear Country, if she had not already been abandoned and sacrificed by her powerfulest *Sons* and natural *Guardians*. How can Life be so well employ'd, so gloriously expos'd, as in Maintenance of the *Liberties* of one's Country? *O Fortunata Mors! quæ Natura debita, pro Patria est potissimum reddita?*

Since then the *Weakness* of some of my Countrymen, and the *Treachery* of others; the *false Politicks* of our *natural Allies*, and the Power and voracious Ambition of *France* leave me no Hopes, that venturing Life would contribute to the Preservation of the *Liberty* I was born to, let me ease my burden'd Heart in Complaints of the *Authors* of my Woe. Some others, less anxious than I am, might be apt to load their *false Friends* with Imprecations; but leaving the Infliction of Punishment to the great Avenger of Wrong, I shall content myself with barely complaining, and assigning Reasons for my Complaint.

I have before said, that the Houses of *Austria* and *Bourbon* were the *Carthage* and *Rome* of *Europe*: As such, the Ballance of Power, and the Liberties of *Europe*, required they should be so supported as not to leave it in their Power to bear down one another: For this necessary End the *Dutch* were encouraged and supported in their Revolt from *Spain* by that Heroine Queen *Elizabeth*, the Ancestor of  
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the glorious Queen *Ann*, who, in her Turn, gave a Check to the too growing Power of the House of *Bourbon*. For this Purpose also was the *Revolution* in *England* concerted and supported by the *States General*, the Princes of *Germany*, and even by the Pope of *Rome*: And for this Purpose particularly was the present *Royal Family* of *England* called to the *British* Crown, exclusive of so many other Princes nearer in Blood. Who could doubt that *German* Princes would be warmly attach'd to the Interest of *Germany* and the House of *Austria*? Who could ever suppose that *German* Protestant Princes would confederate with *France* in dissolving the natural Band of Friendship that had subsisted between those whose Union was necessary for keeping that ambitious Crown within Bounds? The Reasons for the *Act of Settlement* in *England* were founded chiefly on a Presumption that the *Equilibrium* between the Houses of *Austria* and *Bourbon* was not to be preserved without calling the electoral Family of *H——* to the *British* Crown. This was also the Motive for investing the House of *H——r* with the electoral Dignity. Let those who dare dispute these Points with me, shew better Reasons for advancing to so stupendious a Height, a Family far inferior in Power and Alliance to several other Protestant Princes in *Germany*. We choose to be silent as to the *personal Merit* of any Princes.

We have observed, that the last general War, and the Peace of *Utrecht*, which put an End to it, left such an Equality of Power in the Houses of *Austria* and *Bourbon*, that, had it been preserved, as partitioned by that Treaty, the Ballance of Power, and the Liberties of *Europe* would be safe. It must be own'd, that *Holland* had her Share in changing the Plan chalk'd out by that Treaty; but in her Defence let it be said, That she was in some Sort forced into the Measures of *England*, whom it  
would

would be always very unsafe for her to disoblige. As then the Glory or Inglorious redounds chiefly, if not solely, to *England*, let us for a Moment examine her Conduct with Regard to the Ballance of Power since the Decease of *Queen Ann*.

That truly virtuous Princess put the Duke of *Savoy* in Possession of the fertile Kingdom of *Sicily*, not so much to compensate and gratify that Prince for his Fidelity and Usefulness to the *grand Allies*, as to secure his Family for ever in the Interest of the *maritime Powers*. The House of *Savoy* could not hope to continue the Possession of *Sicily* but by being supported by those most powerful at Sea ; and as *England* and *Holland* were, and always would be, superior to *France* on that Element, the Princes of that Family must necessarily continue in the strictest Friendship with those States.

But it seems the wise Politicians of *England* were of another Opinion ; for it was their first *coup d'Essay*, after the Death of *Queen Ann*, to force that Prince to exchange that rich and fertile Island for the poor barren Island of *Sardinia*, scarce worth keeping, much less of such Value as should keep him steady in the Interest of the *maritime Powers*. All *Europe* saw, during the late War between the House of *Bourbon* and the late Emperor, of what Consequence the Alliance of *Savoy* was to the former. All the World might see that the Exchange forced upon the House of *Savoy*, had not a Tendency to the Preservation of the Ballance of Power so necessary to the Liberties of *Europe*.

This compulsive *Exchange*, as it necessarily cooled *Savoy* towards *England* and the Emperor, became the first Step of that strict Friendship and Alliance between *Louis XV.* and the present King of *Sardinia*, which appeared in the late War in *Italy*. Besides the palpable *Injustice* of dispossessing a Prince of a Kingdom that had been given him as a Reward

of his Merit, by the general Consent of the principal Powers of *Europe*, I believe it would puzzle the wisest Man living to assign any colourable Reason for it on the Behalf of *England*. Should it be said, that it was to gratify the Emperor, and render him more formidable in *Italy*, the *quadruple Alliance* flatly gives the Lie to the Assertion ; it being certain, that the Provision made for Don Carlos by that Treaty, weaken'd and displeas'd the Emperor much more than the Acquisition of *Sicily* could either strengthen or please him.

On the Failure of Issue Male in the Houses of *Medicis* and *Farnesse*, the Dukedoms of *Tuscany*, *Parma* and *Placentia*, with their Appendages, being Fiefs of the Empire, would, in all human Probability, soon have come into the Emperor's Possession, if he had not been obliged, I might say, forced to agree to the eventual Succession of the *Infant* of *Spain*: Therefore, to make him more powerful in *Italy*, could not have been the Intention of giving him *Sicily* at the Expence of the House of *Savoy*. We must seek for the Reason from some other Motives ; and they may be these :

Perhaps the *new Family* on the *British* Throne might have thought that the Emperor's becoming powerful in *Italy* would be a Step to his becoming so in *Germany*, where an *Elector* and *Prince* of the *Empire* might be glad to see him unable to prescribe *Laws* : 'Tis not impossible but this Consideration, foreign to the Interest of *England*, might have been the genuine Source of the extraordinary Conduct of the Court of *London* towards the Emperor ever since *Queen Ann's* Death. I am sure 'tis the most natural Construction can be put upon it.

A second Motive might have been the Gratification of the Court of *France*, whose Interest it was to dissolve the Harmony that had subsisted between the Courts of *London* and *Vienna* ever since the *Re-*  
volution



olution in 1688. We have very strong Reasons to suppose that this *Complaisance* went much farther on the Side of the Court of *London* than was consistent with the Interest of *England*, or the *Liberties* of *Europe*: But if it be considered, that this *Complaisance* fell in with the supposed Interest of the *Electorate*, it will be no longer wonder'd that all other Interests were sacrificed.

The late Duke of *Orleans's* Title to the Crown of *France* in Virtue of the Treaty of *Utrecht*, might be a colourable Pretext for the impolitick Deference, not to say Subserviency of the Court of *London* to that of *Versailles*, till that Prince's Death; but as it subsisted after, and does even to this Hour, 'tis more natural to suppose, that the Aggrandizement and Preservation of the *Electorate* was the principal Spring of the Conduct of the Court of *London*.

We are the better confirm'd in the Reality of this Supposition from the particular Conduct of the Court of *London* immediately after the Treaty of *Hanover*: For as soon as the Accession of *Sweden*, *Denmark*, *Hesse-Cassel* and *Wolfenbuttle* were procured to that Treaty, and such an Army provided in *Germany* as secured *H——r* at the Expence of *England*, the Court of *London* sat down contented, and seemed to have no more to do in the War.

'Tis plain the immediate Interest of the *Electorate* was always predominant at the Court of *London*. The Stipulations in Favour of *Don Carlos* by the *quadruple Alliance*, as above, shews it evidently; the Refusal of the sole *Mediation* between the Emperor and *Spain* at *Cambray* manifests it; the Treaty of *Hanover* confirms it; and the Treaty of *Seville* puts it beyond all Cavil or Dispute.

Tho' the Court of *Vienna* was all-a-long jealous of the partial Conduct of the Court of *London*, the Emperor bore with great Moderation all the manifest Slights of *England*, as being his natural Ally, till

the Treaty of *Seville* in 1729: But the Introduction of *Spanish* Garrisons into *Tuscany* and *Parma*, stipulated by that Treaty, was such an essential Variation of the *quadruple Alliance*, was such a Blow to his Power in *Italy*; in short, was so glaring an *Infraction* of *Treaties*, and so derogatory to his Honour, and so injurious to his immediate *Interest*, and the Rights of the *Empire*, that he could no longer forbear proclaiming the Wrongs intended, and providing against the Machinations of such as he had Reason to look upon as his *secret Enemies*.

We may perceive the Emperor's Jealousy of the Court of *London* from Part of a *commissorial Decree* he sent to the Diet at *Ratisbon* as soon as the Treaty of *Seville* was made publick; in which, having vindicated his own Conduct, with Regard to Don *Carlos*, he goes on; ' But, contrary to all Expectation, a particular Treaty has been concluded at *Seville* between the Crowns of *France*, ' *Spain* and *Great Britain*; the 9th and subsequent ' Articles of which (relating to the *Spanish* Garrisons) cannot but raise the highest Indignation, because the most essential Bands of human Society ' are therein broken; and if *Christian Powers* pretend thus to dispose of the Estates of *third Persons*, ' all Confidence and good Faith ought to be banish'd ' out of the World: Besides, they have no Regard ' to former *Treaties*, nor to the last *preliminary Articles* which were acknowledged by both Parties, ' as the Ground-work of the Negotiations for the ' general Peace, and as the only Counterpoise to an ' exorbitant Power, that was designed to be erected ' in Europe. They have no Attention to the *Acts* ' of *Guaranty*, that have been delivered. They ' dispose of the Rights and Territories of the *Empire* ' as they please, even in the Life-time of the lawful ' Possessors. They set so little Value upon the *Emperor* and *Empire*, that they would not so much

' as

‘ as ask their *Consent* in an *Affair* that was properly  
 ‘ their own, tho’ *such Consent* was made necessary  
 ‘ by the *Alliance of London*. If therefore *such Con-*  
 ‘ *duct* takes Place, and the *new Allies* persist therein,  
 ‘ we shall hereafter see *Might* overcome *Right*, and  
 ‘ *Engagements* trampled on at Pleasure ; and what-  
 ‘ ever the *new Allies* shall judge to be most conve-  
 ‘ nient, will always be most just, without any Re-  
 ‘ gard to *Things* or *Persons*.’

Here we see the *Conduct* and *Intentions* of the Court of *London*, with *Regard* to the House of *Austria*, set in their true *Lights* : We see the *English* Ministry aggrandizing the House of *Bourbon* at the Expence of the *Emperor*, against *Treaties*, against *Justice*, and against all *Policy* : And this we see done in the most *affronting* Manner to the Person of his *imperial Majesty* that possibly could be.

From this Step alone, if there was no other *Motive*, ’tis apparent, that there was a premeditated *Design*, not only of *weakening* the House of *Austria* and *strengthening* that of *Bourbon*, but of *irritating* the *Emperor* so as to oblige him to some *Violence* that might give a *Colour* for an intire Breach : Perhaps it was judged necessary, in order to please, or rather blind, the *English* Nation, that the *Slight*s put upon the *Emperor* should appear to have been rather the *Effects* of his own *Conduct*, than from unwarrantable *Motives*.

But as soon as the aforesaid *commissorial Decree* was published, which opened the *Eyes* of all *Europe*, and the *Empire* in particular, and that the *Emperor* poured a great *Body* of *Troops* into *Italy* to oppose the Execution of the *Treaty of Seville*, so far as regarded the *Injustice* stipulated against the *Emperor* in Favour of *Don Carlos*, the Court of *London* changed her *Tone* ; and, instead of using *Force* to oblige the *Emperor* to consent to the Execution of the *Treaty of Seville*, it thought proper to court him



to it: But here it will be worth observing, that while the *Emperor* was arming to maintain his *Rights* against the *Injustice* intended him by the Treaty of *Seville*, Care was taken by the Court of *London* that he should have no Supplies of Money from *England*: For, in 1730, an Act of Parliament pass'd to prohibit the lending any Sums of Money to any foreign Prince, State or Potentate, &c.

Thus it may be perceived, that no Stone was left unturn'd by the Court of *London* to distress the *Emperor* and weaken the Interest of his *House*.

When it was found that the *Emperor* was not to be bully'd or compell'd to consent to the Execution of the Treaty of *Seville*, so far as related to the Succession of *Don Carlos*, he was courted, as has been already said. To obtain his Consent, the Court of *London* offered to guaranty the *Pragmatick Sanction*. The *Emperor* foreseeing he could not withstand the joint Power of the *Allies* of *Seville*, agreed to this Equivalent; and so, for the present, Differences between him and the Court of *London* were adjusted, at least in Appearance, by the second Treaty of *Vienna*.

Before I consider this *Guaranty*, let me admire the *Politicks* of the Court of *London* in Regard to these two Treaties. We have observed how grossly the *Emperor* was affronted, as well as injured, by the Treaty of *Seville*, I will suppose in Complaisance to *France*; but by the second Treaty of *Vienna*, *France* look'd upon herself to be both affronted and injured; and so indeed she was; for, by the 4th Article of the Treaty of *Hanover*, the *Contractors* had reciprocally agreed, not only to enter into no Treaty, Alliance or Engagements whatever, contrary to the Interest of each other; but even faithfully to communicate to each other the Proposals that may be made to them, and not to take any Resolution otherwise than in Concert together, and after a joint Examination, &c.

Thus

Thus were the *Emperor* and his *most Christian Majesty* alternatively *disobliged* by the refined Statesmen of *England*, without any View of Advantage to their own Country. But when Men bungle or trip in their first setting out, they generally bungle and trip to the End of their Carreer.

The *Emperor* being irritated by the Treaties of *Hanover* and *Seville*, it was judged proper to pacify him by the second Treaty of *Vienna*, as has been observed ; and *France*, irritated by this last Treaty, concluded without her Knowledge or Participation, it was thought necessary to soften her in her Turn : And if it be true what has been whispered on this Head, we may boldly say, that all the Misfortunes of the House of *Austria* are owing to the contradictory Conduct of *English* Sages. I won't answer for the Truth of it ; but it has been rumoured at all the Courts of the *North*, that, to bring *France* into good Humour, after the second Treaty of *Vienna*, the Court of *London* promised her Interest and Assistance to restore King Stanislaus to the Throne of *Poland* whenever King Augustus should die ; and that in Consequence of this Promise, the *British* Minister in *Poland* was ordered, and did actually co-operate with the *French* Minister after the Death of that Prince.

Let it be observed, that I assert these Facts on Hearsay only ; but let it likewise be observed, that the *Inaction* of *England*, during the late War in Consequence of the *Polish* Election, is no Proof of the *Falseness* of the said Rumour, any more than the *Refusal* of producing the *Instructions* given the *British* Minister in *Poland*, when they were demanded by some Members of the *British* Parliament in 1733.

But since we are upon Rumours, let us add one more on this Head, which proclaims not only the *Wisdom*, but the *Honesty* of the *British* Ministry. It has been said then, that the *Emperor* getting Wind,  
and

and exasperated at the aforesaid Engagement to support King *Sanislaus*, it was judged proper to appease him, By *fresh Engagements in Favour of the electoral Prince of Saxony, the present King of Poland.*

I don't take upon me to answer for this *Rumour* any more than the other ; but certainly the Conduct of *England*, during the Contest for the Crown of *Poland*, would incline one to believe, that the *English* Ministry were afraid of incurring the *Reproach* and *Resentment* of one *Side* or the *other* : And, indeed, not improperly, since the *Emperor* and his *most Christian Majesty* might have had the *strongest Reasons* for thinking themselves intitled to the Assistance of *England*.

One would imagine from the whole Conduct of the *English* Ministry, they had no View to *Futurity* in any of their *Treaties* ; nay it might be supposed from all their Measures, that they regarded only the *present Time*, heedless of what might happen from the Consequence of their contradictory Engagements or Breach of *Treaties* : For we find that they aimed only at *momentary Expedients*, calculated for a Day, or particular Purpose ; such as *appeasing* their *Fellow-Subjects* for a Season, or gaining *Power*, or some favourite Point in *Parliament*.

The Guaranty of the *Pragmatick Sanction*, by the second Treaty of *Vienna*, may be look'd upon as one of those *momentary Expedients* ; for it can't be supposed, had it been intended to be performed, that *England* would have stood *neuter* during the late War between the *Emperor* and *France* ; it being obvious that the *Ballance of Power*, intended to be preserved by the said *Guaranty*, must be destroyed if the *Emperor* was left singly to oppose *France*——The Consequence plainly confirms this Supposition.

But with Regard to the aforesaid *Guaranty*, it was proper for *England* to agree to it, or it was not : If it was proper, as without doubt it was, why was it  
refused



*refused* till it was extorted from her, by the *Emperor's* Firmness to oppose the Execution of the Treaty of *Seville* in Favour of the Infant of *Spain*? If it was not the Interest of *England* to agree to a *Guaranty* that probably would involve her in a War on the Demise of the *Emperor*, why did she take it upon her? By taking it upon her, if she did not design to perform, she *deluded* the *Emperor* into a Security fatal to his Family. Had not that Prince been thus *deluded*, he might have taken other Measures for securing the Succession he intended for his eldest Daughter. He might, and certainly would, have had his Son-in-Law, the Duke of *Lorrain*, elected King of the *Romans* as soon as he was married, which would have strengthened his House, if he had not depended on the *Guaranty* of *England*: So that take this *Guaranty* in any Light, we may say, that it gave an incurable Wound to the House of *Austria*. If *England* had agreed to none, no Strefs had been laid upon it, and other Measures had been taken; but the *Emperor's* Reliance upon the Power of *England*, as well he might, it being her *Interest* to support his House, has proved the Ruin of his Family.

To shew that the *English* Ministry's Intentions went no farther than serving a *present Turn*, in agreeing to the aforesaid *Guaranty*; nay, to shew rather that the *Imposition* on the *Emperor* was a Matter *premeditated*, examine their Conduct since the Demise of that injured Prince. Whilst *France* had her publick Ministers and private *Emissaries* at all the Courts of *Germany* upon the Death of the *Emperor* and since, what was the Conduct of *England*? Was it to countermine *France* by publick and private *Emissaries*? Was it to feel the *Pulses* of the *Princes* of the *Empire*, and to greese their Hands as *France* did? Was it to heal the unhappy *Breach* with the House of *Prussia*, which *France* was industriously widening? Was it to thwart the Designs of *France* in kindling

a War between *Sweden* and *Russia*, that the latter might be diverted from assisting the House of *Austria*? Was it in early Precautions to succour the Queen of *Hungary* against *Bavaria*, for whom all *France* was in Motion? In short, was the Conduct of *England* in any Shape, upon the Death of the *Emperor*, such as shew'd her resolved, or even inclin'd, to support the House of *Austria*, or perform her *Guaranty*?

All that we know, or have heard, of the Efforts of *England* on this important Occasion, was to come into *Resolutions* at the *far End* of a Sessions of Parliament, to support the Queen of *Hungary*, and to grant a *trifling Sum* of Money to his *Britannick Majesty* for that Purpose. I had almost forgot that she took uncommon Pains with the *crafty Cardinal* to persuade him to continue in his *pacifick Resolutions*. The *old Priest*, without doubt, listen'd with great Courtesy to these *pacifick Overtures* whilst he was taking his Measures for the Execution of his *Scheme*, and so fed his *Brother Minister* with *whipt Sillibub* at a very small Expence.

But why were these *Resolutions* of the *British Parliament* postponed to the End of the Sessions? The *Emperor* died before the Parliament met, and consequently the *Danger* was as evident, and might as well be seen at the *Beginning* as *latter End* of the Sessions. Does not even this Delay shew that it was never intended to perform the *Guaranty* of the *Pragmatick Sanction*? Well, but the *Resolutions* were taken at last, his Majesty was *address'd* in *vigorous Terms*, and *Money*, small as the Sum was, was granted: But what has been the Consequence? Has the Queen of *Hungary* had any of the Money? or, Have any *Troop* or other *Succour* been given her in Virtue of these *vigorous Resolutions*? Is this *Money* yet in Bank to be given to that abandon'd *Princess* as an *Ams*, as soon as she shall be drove from *Vienna*? or, Was it

it better employ'd to *influence* the late general *Elections* in G—— B—— ? or, to proceed, Was this *parliamentary* Donation employ'd to secure a *German E——e* from Monsieur *Maillebois* ? Let who will answer these *Interrogatories*, 'tis more than we *Germans*, I mean the *Germans* residing out of the *lower Circle* of *Saxony*, can do. I doubt not but such *Germans* as breathe the thin Air about H—n—n, may be able to answer those, and many other more *important* Questions to the same Purpose.

Nothing could have been more fatal to the *Liberties* of *Germany*, and in particular to the *Protestant* Interest, than the *Misunderstanding* between the Courts of *London* and *Berlin*. All good *Germans* dreaded the bad Consequence of it ; all *Protestants* regretted it with sensible Concern : But what signifies the Dread of *Germans* or *Protestants* ? Princes are Mortals, and Mortals are *tenacious* of their Interest, at least some of them. Some insist on having *Justice* done to them in Virtue of *Testaments*, *Deeds*, or other authentick Writings ; and some again *refuse* doing that *Justice*, thinking it, I suppose, the highest Injustice to part with *That* on which they most set their *narrow Hearts*. Thus are *Families* set at Variance, often to the Disadvantage of others, as well as themselves.

All *Protestants* wish'd and hoped, that all Differences would have been made up between Courts so nearly ally'd, as soon as the late King of *Prussia* died : They thought, that as the Death of that Prince put an End to all personal Enmity, if any there had been, his Successor would be more moderate : But whether from the private Practices of *France*, or the *Inflexibility* of the Court of *London*, as to *certain Points*, the World sees the same Coolness subsist.

This Coolness, not to call it by a more harsh Name, between the Courts of *London* and *Berlin* has been no less fatal to the House of *Austria* than the In-



*fluence* of *France*, and that *Amor Patriæ*, which so visibly bias'd the present Royal Family of *E——d*. There was no Confidence between the Houses of *H——r* and *Prussia*: It was Jealousy on *one Side*, it was Doubt on the *other*: What Hopes could be entertain'd that *one Side* would heed the *Mediation* of the *other*? My Lord *H——d* and Mr. *R——n* might be able Ministers in Spite of the Examples of their Court: These Ministers, I say, might be wary, circumspect and assiduous; they might be honest and mean well; but what of all that? They never could hope to succeed, nor no-body belived they would, till the *Cause* should be first removed that had *sever'd* the two Courts after the Death of King *George I*.

The Plan to be laid down and observed by the Court of *London* for preserving the Peace and Liberties of *Germany*, the Ballance of Power, the Protestant Interest, the Trade of *England*; and, I might say, the *Freedom* of *Europe*, was, after the Decease of the late Emperor, to end all Disputes with *Prussia*, to overbid *France* where-ever she endeavour'd to corrupt, to awe *Sweden*, if she could not be gain'd, by a Fleet in the *Baltick*, to enable the Queen of *Hungary* to fortify herself against all Events, to encourage the *Dutch* to join their Forces to a considerable Body of *English* in the *Netherlands*; and, above all, to doubt *France*, and treat with her as an *Equal*, neither *dreading* her Frowns, nor *court- ing* her Smiles.

But, alas! instead of such a Plan for preserving the House of *Austria*, the *Protestant* Religion and the Liberties of *Europe*, we have seen one of a quite other Complexion pursued with great Earnestness. We have seen *France* not only dreaded but courted. As soon as she arm'd, and was in Motion towards the *lower Rhine*, we have seen her send her *Herald* before her Army; and, if *common Fame* be not false; ah, that it was *common Fame* only that was to be disbelieved!

disbelieved ! And if she, I say, be not false, the *French Herald* is heard, is caress'd, and succeeds. We see the Difference with *Prussia* still subsisting, the Queen of *Hungary* still unaided, the Pulses of the *German Princes* unfelt, and the Attempts of *Sweden* upon *Russia* not prevented, tho' large *English* Squadrons were ingloriously riding in their Ports, or as ignominiously hovering upon the Coast of *Spain*, without daring to land, to burn or destroy.

If this Portraiture, and much more which might be added, of the *Conduct* of *England* since the Peace of *Utrecht*, and particularly since the late Emperor's Death, be drawn impartially, it can be no longer doubted who they are that have been *Authors* of the present Distractions of *Germany*; but if an Objection should be made to the Partiality of the Picture, let those who make it shew any one Step taken by the Ministry of *London*, since the Death of Queen *Ann*, for strengthening the House of *Austria* before the Emperor's Death, or for supporting it since, except the late *Resolutions* of their Parliament, which, indeed, were *vigorous* in Appearance, but attended with no Benefit to the abandon'd Queen of *Hungary*. Whether the Fault ought to lie at the Door of *English* or *H——n Ministers* is not my Business to determine. The *new Parliament* may examine the Matter if it pleases.

We have animadverted on the Conduct of *England*, such as it has been in Regard to the Ballance of Power since the Death of Queen *Ann*, let us now examine what it might and ought to have been, to answer the Ends of the *Revolution*, and the *Settlement* of the Crown in the *Protestant* Line.

Instead of a String of Treaties, Preliminaries, provisional Treaties, Conventions, &c. with the Courts of *France* and *Spain*, *England* ought not to have treated with either on any Pretext whatever. Her whole Business was to have maintain'd Things as they  
were

were settled by the Treaty of *Utrecht*, without the least Variation To this End the Spirit of the *Grand Alliance* should have been kept up, and the strictest Harmony preserved with the *Emperor*, *Savoy*, the *States General*, *Prussia*, and all the antient *Confederates*. Upon the least Motion of the House of *Bourbon* to enlarge itself either on this, or the other Side of the *Alps*, or to disturb the publick Tranquility, the Confederacy should be resumed, and Satisfaction demanded immediately, and exacted. Did *Spain* obstruct the *British* Trade either in *Europe* or *America*, in order to force her to gratify an ambitious *Queen*, she ought to have been chastised vigorously without any Loss of Time. By a Firmness of Conduct on this Plan, the *Ballance of Power* would have been solely in *England*: Had she pursued it, she would have been out of Debt, had enlarged her Trade, and the House of *Austria*, and the *Liberties* of *Europe*, would have been safe. The whole World see the dire Effects of a contrary Conduct.

We have before observed upon the Consequences of a *Neutrality* whisper'd to have been entered into by the Influence of *France*. We shall now mention another *Rumour* no less injurious to the Honour of *Some-body* and the *Liberties* of *Europe*, which is just come to us here at the *Hague*, piping hot, from all the political Ovens, down from *Munich* to the united Provinces, viz. That a certain *Electör* has promised his Vote at the ensuing Election to the *Duke* of *Bavaria*. Believe it who will.

Tho' such a Promise would be but the natural Consequence of the whisper'd *Neutrality*; yet, as *France* can't doubt of carrying the Election without the Vote of a certain Prince, methinks the insisting upon it is such a Piece of Insolence as the polite Cardinal would scarce be guilty of without absolute Necessity. It would be pushing the *Patience* and *Resignation* of Man too far: But as there are no Bounds to the Imperiousness of Churchmen, there is no judging how far they will push all who are complaisant enough to pay them *Homage*.

Such a Vote, simply in itself, is of very little Consequence at this Time: For, alas! the Cards have been a playing for many Years into the Hands of *France*: She has been in Possession of the whole Pack ever since the late War between her and the late *Emperor*, and may now play what Game she pleases. The only Comfort that remains for a Patriot *German* (and there are *Germans* that are not Patriots) is, that tho' he be the first likely to fall a Sacrifice to the Ambition of this cunning Gamester, he is not the only.

*Solamen miseris Socios habuisse dolores.*



